



Decision Tree: Risk Factors and Behaviors Suggesting Possible Vision and/or Hearing Concerns in Young and School-aged Children

Concerns About a Child's Vision

Child With Risk Factor(s) for Vision Impairment:

- Low birth weight (<3 pounds)
- Cerebral palsy
- Head trauma
- Hearing loss***
- Hydrocephalus/Shunt
- Meningitis/Encephalitis
- Congenital infections (such as CMV)
- Retinopathy of Prematurity
- Seizures
- Syndrome associated with vision concerns

Child Has Concerning Vision Behaviors:

Discuss with family, team (including a vision specialist);
implement appropriate referrals for a comprehensive eye exam by an ophthalmologist knowledgeable in pediatric vision concerns;

request a functional vision assessment that includes a screening or functional evaluation for Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI)

Child Has Notable Eye Concerns:

Obtain and review the ophthalmological and functional hearing assessment reports and recommendations.

Concerns About a Child's Hearing

Child With Risk Factor(s) for Hearing Loss

- Speech/Language delay
- Parental concern about hearing
- Family history of hearing loss
- Prematurity/NICU > 5 days
- Congenital infection (such as CMV)
- Bacterial meningitis
- Craniofacial abnormalities
- Syndromes associated with hearing loss
- Ototoxic medications (gentamycin, lasix, chemotherapy)
- Head trauma

Child Has Concerning Listening/Speaking Behaviors:

Discuss with family, team (including a hearing specialist);
implement appropriate referrals for a comprehensive hearing assessment by a pediatric audiologist;

request a functional hearing assessment that includes a screening or functional evaluation for Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD)

Child Has Notable Physical Concerns:

Obtain and review the audiology and functional vision assessment reports and recommendations.

Next Steps If There Are Concerns About A Child's Vision Or Hearing

Essential steps for children with confirmed vision impairment impacting educational needs

Essential steps for children with confirmed hearing loss impacting educational needs

Provider/Parental Concerns of Vision
 (based on observations, interview or ASQ results, presence of risk factors, failed vision screen)

Provider/Parental Concerns of Hearing Loss
 (based on observations, interview or ASQ results, presence of risk factors, failed hearing screen)

Obtain and review
 a functional vision assessment (to understand the impact on educational needs and strategies to employ educationally)

Obtain and review
 a functional hearing assessment (to understand the impact on educational needs and strategies to employ educationally)

If signs, symptoms, or risk factors are present
 that may indicate a hearing impairment or Central Auditory Processing Disorder, discuss with the family the rationale for an evaluation of hearing loss, including a functional hearing screening or functional hearing assessment

If signs, symptoms, or risk factors are present
 that may indicate a visual impairment (including cortical/cerebral), discuss with the family the rationale for an evaluation of vision loss – both clinical and functional.

Evaluate and monitor for hearing loss
 Evaluate and monitor for hearing loss (hearing screening, audiology evaluation, functional hearing assessment)

Evaluate and monitor for vision loss
 Evaluate and monitor for vision loss (ophthalmology evaluation, functional vision assessment)

Proceed with steps to **determine educational impact** and to register the child on the census and access OCDBE services and supports services (next page)

Proceed with steps to **determine educational impact** and to register the child on the census and access OCDBE services and supports services (next page)



What To Do For Children With Known Vision Impairment And/Or Hearing Loss

Essential steps for children with confirmed vision impairment impacting educational needs

Obtain **Ophthalmology report** and recommendations

Obtain **Functional Vision Assessment** (to understand impact on educational needs and strategies to employ educationally)

Add appropriate Vision **Services** (i.e. VI, O&M) and **accommodations** to IFSP/IEP

Communicate to all team members the vision accommodations that are needed

Monitor for changes in vision

Ensure Part C and Part B programming includes needs related to vision on IFSP/IEP transition plan

Evaluate and monitor for hearing loss (hearing screening results, audiology report)

Refer to **Ohio Center for Deafblind Education** if identified with hearing loss of any degree (unilateral or bilateral)

Consider **deafblind** as appropriate **educational category** on IEP

Monitor for changes in hearing

Essential steps for children with confirmed hearing loss impacting educational needs

Obtain **Audiology report** and recommendations

Obtain **Functional Hearing Assessment** (to understand impact on educational needs and strategies to employ educationally)

Add appropriate Hearing **Services** and **accommodations** to IFSP/IEP (i.e. Regional Infant Hearing Program, Educational Audiology, Teacher of the Deaf/HH, communication needs)

Communicate to all team members the hearing accommodations that are needed

Monitor for changes in hearing

Ensure Part C and Part B programming includes needs related to hearing on IFSP/IEP transition plan

Evaluate and monitor for vision loss (ophthalmology evaluation)

Refer to **Ohio Center for Deafblind Education** if identified with vision loss in addition to hearing loss

Consider **deafblind** as appropriate **educational category** on IEP

Monitor for changes in vision

If Deafblind